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"I have only one word more, Sir, to say. I should like the hon. the Leader of the House to make a statement as regards the Government business that is likely to be brought up in January so that we may be in a position to know, without being surprised by something like the two days' notice as in the case of one of the Bills on the agenda, what business will be brought up in the next session of the Council. I wanted to suggest this at the last meeting, and I hope, before the meeting is adjourned, the Government may make a statement as regards the business which they wish to place before the House at the next meeting."

The hon. Sir Charles Todhunter :—" I shall be very glad to endeavour to comply with the hon. Member's request."

The hon. the President :—" So far as the state of business is concerned, the proper thing would be for us to appoint a committee consisting of members of all parties to consider this question; the arrangement of the resolutions is done by ballot and I do not think it is open to us, unless we change the Standing Orders, to alter that practice. I should not change it on my own responsibility and, as the hon. Member has said, there may be resolutions which are of importance and which find a place very low down. But if it is the wish of the House to change the practice, the question should be brought up as an amendment to the Standing Orders, or, better still, the House may have a committee to consider the whole question and to report thereon. So far as I am concerned, I have only to give the assurance, which I have already given, that I will certainly endeavour to carry out the wishes of the House, and where those wishes could be carried out only by His Excellency the Governor, I am prepared to place before him the considered wishes of the House for consideration."

Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao Pantulu :—"I do not know if the hon. the Leader of the House is interested in the setting up of the non-official business to be done in this House. If he is, I would suggest that he should be the person to move for the appointment of a committee such as the one indicated by you, Sir."

IV

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1922-23.

Grant VII.

The hon. Mr. A. R. Knapp :—" Mr. President, I beg to move

'*that the Government be granted a sum of Rs.* 13,662 *under 22-A (a)—General Administration—Staff and household of the Governor—Personal staff of His Excellency the Governor of Madras and His Excellency the Governor's Bodyguard for additional expenditure anticipated on the Bodyguard of His Excellency the Governor during the current year.*'

"I may explain, Sir, that this does not represent any enhancement in the scale of the establishment employed over that which has hitherto been employed and for which the Council at the budget meeting intended to provide. The position is this. Up to last year the charges for the Bodyguard were not brought before the Council at all. They were a military item provided for in the military budget. The Military Secretary, when called upon for the first time to make an estimate of this year's expend ture to be placed on our budget, found himself with very limited data and did

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Grant VII—cont.

the best he could to make a more or less rough estimate of the amount of money which would be required under the various services of the Bodyguard. The amount which was thus provided for was Rs. 1,35,000, and that is included in the item of Rs. 2,10,000 found in the budget. The Military Secretary by the end of September found that he had already spent on these services Rs. 88,434 and he anticipated that he would require for the rest of the year Rs. 62,141. This gives a total of Rs. 1,50,575 and leaves it short by Rs. 14,862 of the sum required to maintain the sanctioned scale. Of this sum Rs. 1,200 is non-voted and will be met by re-appropriation. I now ask the Council to sanction the grant for the balance of Rs. 13,662 required for the maintenance of the establishment."

The motion was put and the grant was made.

Grant XVII.

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Mr. President, I beg to move

'*that the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs.* 33,100 *under* 32. *Medical for making arrangements for the teaching of bio-chemistry in the Medical College, Madras.*'

" Sir, the importance of bio-chemistry in the diagnosis of diseases was prominently brought before the notice of the Government when, some time back, the Surgeon-General made a proposal that a selected Assistant Surgeon should be sent on deputation to England to be trained in that subject. The idea then was that that officer so trained should be employed as a bio-chemist for all State hospitals. Later on, however, that proposal was abandoned in favour of another. According to the latter proposal, instead of sending a man on deputation to England for training the services of an expert officer were to be had. If the services of an expert were available, it was thought that not only would the Government have the immediate service of that expert, but it would be possible to train a number of assistant surgeons whose services might be used as bio-chemists in the mufassal hospitals. But on account of financial considerations the Government could not proceed with this proposal.

" Now, Sir, the case for the appointment of a bio-chemist in the Madras Medical College has become more urgent. The British Medical Council has declared that from the 1st January 1923 bio-chemistry must be made a compulsory part of the studies of medical students in Great Britain. In recent years, bio-chemistry has gained very great importance and surely the British Medical Council will insist upon the teaching of bio-chemistry in the Madras Medical College on pain of withdrawing the recognition of the Madras M.B. & B.S. Degree. Sir, the University of Madras has also urged on the Government to appoint a professor to teach both bio-chemistry and bio-physics.

" In these circumstances, Sir, the appointment is necessary and it has been arranged to have an expert on a temporary agreement system for three years and the cost of his appointment for three years is estimated at Rupees 83,000 and odd. Out of this we require Rs. 33,100 for the current year. The details of this estimate are : Rs. 1,000 for passage, Rs. 5,000, pay for four months, Rs. 27,000 for equipment and Rs. 92 for the pay of an attendant ; altogether in round figures Rs. 33,100. I hope and trust the Council will agree to this grant."

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Grant XVII—cont.

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—" I should like to ask the hon. Member in charge of Local Self-Government what the pay of this officer will be."

11-30 a.m.

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Rs. 1,250 a month."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—" I should also like to know whether it is proposed to recruit this officer by advertisement."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Yes ; I think, by the High Commissioner."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" May I know, Sir, what bio-chemistry means, and how it will help in diagnosing diseases ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" It deals with the chemical side of biological process."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—" I wish to make one suggestion, Sir. During my perigrinations to the British Universities, it was brought to my notice that these medical appointments, especially the professional appointments in the medical colleges, were not properly advertised in those universities and it was suggested to me that the best way of staffing the Indian universities was to get the best men out of those who were already engaged in teaching in the British Universities. In the interest of the medical profession—not in view of this particular service or that particular appointment, but in the interest of proficiency in teaching in our universities—I suggest that the men should be recruited either from the British or other Universities. I wish to know if this is what is proposed to be done."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" It is proposed to have the services of this special officer through the Secretary of State and the High Commissioner."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—" Is it proposed to advertise this appointment ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The discretion is left to the Secretary of State."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—" Then I must enter a word of protest. I think that if the Local Government has any degree of interest in the appointment, it must make its best effort to get the best man and it should not leave the matter to the Secretary of State. That is exactly the point that I wanted to press."

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

V

(1)

A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS CITY MUNICIPAL ACT, 1919.

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I beg to move, Sir, that the Bill further to amend the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919, be read in Council. Sir, the Bill is more or less a formal one. It has been published in the gazette and the statement accompanying the Bill explains its objects and reasons."